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The Common Cause

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Important Notice.

Under the new Paper Restriction Order, the supply of papers on sale or return is prohibited. It will therefore be impossible in future for the public to obtain newspapers WITHOUT GIVING DEFINITE ORDERS. Readers of The Common Cause are therefore urged TO PLACE AN ORDER WITH THEIR NEWSAGENTS IMMEDIATELY, OR TO APPLY FOR The Common Cause TO BE POSTED DIRECT FROM THIS OFFICE.

Notes and News.

The Women Teachers.

We publish on page 199 an article on the present situation of the women teachers in London with regard to salaries and bonus. Since the article was sent to us we learn that the London Education Committee has accepted the recommendations of its teaching staff sub-committee as to the war bonus. Our readers will, we believe, be particularly glad to read an article written by Miss Agnes Dawson, who has so long been known as a devoted and undaunted worker for Women's Suffrage in South London. The spirit with which the women teachers are carrying on their present struggle is the old Suffrage spirit that we know so well. For the moment the women teachers are not only leading the way in the struggle for equal pay for equal work, but they may well be regarded as the foremost combatants for feminism. For years the struggle for the freedom of women has centred in the demand for political franchise; it seems likely that in the years immediately ahead it will centre in the demand for equal treatment in the economic world. We wish all success to the women teachers, and we thank them for what they are doing for women outside as well as within their own profession.

The Education Bill.

The Education Bill was read a third time by the House of Commons on July 16th. It was introduced in the House of Lords by Lord Lytton on July 23rd. He said that for the first time the nation was asked to decide definitely that the claims of education should come before those of industry. The Bill, which was probably the last great legislative act of the present Parliament, was an essential measure of reconstruction. It would give us an education system superior to that of any other country, but to ensure success it was necessary that the people should have faith in learning. On July 24th the Bill was read a second time by the House of Lords. The Committee Stage begins as we go to press.

Soldiers' Wives and Children.

We have this week to report an increase of separation allowances to wives and dependents of non-commissioned officers and privates in His Majesty's Forces, entailing an increased expenditure of fourteen million pounds. There is no increase in the rates for a wife alone, or for children over fourteen years of age, but where there is in the family one child under fourteen years the weekly allowance is increased by two and sixpence per week, and where there are two or more such children the weekly allowance is increased by four and sixpence per week. The separation allowance for a motherless child under fourteen maintained in a home is increased by three shillings per week, and for the second and subsequent motherless children by one shilling for each child. These altered rates will come into operation in October of this year.

Women on Juries.

The age of jury service for men has been extended by the Juries Bill to sixty-five years. An amendment to include women as jurors was ruled out of order. The whole question of women on juries could not well be raised on this bill, so the amendment dealt only with women between sixty and sixty-five years. The Chairman of the Committee, however, refused to allow "this interesting proposition," as he called it, to be discussed. Few acts of public service are made up of so much trouble and so little compensation as the work of a jury. Women want to share in it, however (or, at any rate, a good many of them do), because it is public service of which they are as capable as men, and because they believe that women prisoners have a right to be tried by their peers.

Moral Legislation.

The message from the Lords, inviting the Commons to join with them in forming a Select Committee to consider the Criminal Law Amendment Bill and the Sexual Offences Bill, met with vehement opposition in the House of Commons last week. Mr. John Burns, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. Chancellor made strong speeches on the difficulty of legislating on these complicated moral questions, and the extreme inadvisability of touching them before the women had had an opportunity of using their votes. The matter was pressed to a division, and the Government won by fifty votes to thirty-six. The Committee will, therefore, be appointed. It is to be hoped, however, that the narrow vote and all that was said (and truly said) about the watchfulness of the women's organisations will prevent any premature action. What women dread is not the appointment of a Committee, but panic legislation. The Committee, at the worst, can only waste time; at the best it will help educate members of Parliament, at least those who take part in it. But if it were to issue a hurried report and an attempt were made to push through a bill before the Recess, large numbers of women would undoubtedly regard it as an outrage. The more men and women of goodwill think and learn about this very difficult and intensely important matter, the more light is thrown on it by research and debate, the more hope there will be for the future. Such a Commission of Enquiry as that which the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene is initiating ought to do much good, and it is earnestly to be hoped that the Government will not take any further steps in the matter until this Commission

has done its work. Women have not forgotten the horrors of the Contagious Diseases Acts, nor are they ignorant of the horrors that are happening under 40 D. They have their votes and they will use them to make such things impossible. The Government will only do harm if it tries to act prematurely in this matter. Let it remember its failure last year, and let it also remember that there is a new electorate.

Exclusion of Women from Police-Courts.

The work of women patrols and women police has so far justified itself in the eyes even of the most conservative among our magistrates that it is rare now to hear of the patrols or police-women being turned out of court when a case concerning a woman or child is being heard. Instances do arise, however, and it is therefore important for all interested in the unfortunate women and children who appear before the magistrates, and in equality of status as between men and women, to press for a clear understanding that no court shall be cleared of women only, but that during the hearing of certain cases no one—whether boy or girl—under the age of twenty-one shall be allowed to remain. What is apt to happen now is that during a case concerning a woman the court can be cleared of all women, while young boys can remain.

A particularly glaring case occurred the other day in a London police-court, in which, during a case of assault on the part of two youths against a little girl of nine years old, the court was cleared of all women, including the police-woman and the mother. The mother is a soldier's widow, and when asked why she did not protest, said she was afraid of worrying the police in case her pension should be taken away. This fear on the part of many of the respectable working women of the power of the police should be noted when pressing for the appointment of police-women.

Rations for Expectant Mothers.

Readers of the "CommonCause" will be particularly interested to learn of the adoption of a new food regulation which we advocated some time since in our pages. Expectant mothers may now receive during the last three months either half as much again more meat as an ordinary person or twice the quantity of margarine or butter, besides a priority certificate for milk. To provide for nursing mothers a ration card will be issued for an infant from the date of birth.

A Time of Suspense.

Once more America supplies us with sensational Suffrage history. Early in June we published an article describing the suffrage situation in the United States, where, after years of work to secure the Federal franchise for women, Mrs. Chapman Catt and her followers found themselves, on the eve of a division, one vote short of the two-thirds majority required to pass a constitutional amendment through the Senate. Suffragists there wisely preferred a waiting policy rather than a chance of victory depending upon one casual vote. Their policy has succeeded. They have made their convert, and are now sure of two-thirds of the members of the Senate. June 27th was the date fixed for the Suffrage debate and division. But American hopes were again destined to disappointment. Recognising that if the question came to a division they were doomed to defeat, anti-suffragists devoted all their energies to blocking the Suffrage Bill. They delivered speech upon speech, until at last shortage of time and the pressure of war legislation forced the temporary withdrawal of the bill. Senator Reed, the Chairman of the Suffrage Committee, in withdrawing his women's suffrage motion, announced: "As soon as the Supply Bill has passed I shall insist on a vote on this question, and shall resist any attempt on the part of the Senate to take a recess until it has been adopted." We trust that the argument of exhaustion will prove a compelling one, that anti-suffragists will be emboldened by their longing for a recess, and will face the defeat that, sooner or later, is inevitable by agreeing to a fair division on Women's Suffrage.

Women for Service.

An announcement by the Air Ministry has appeared in the Press this week, stating the need of a large number of women officers for the Women's Royal Air Force. Women of good education are wanted between the ages of twenty-five and forty-five. They will be entitled to free quarters in addition to salary, and the salaries offered range from a hundred and seventy-five pounds for a Hostel Administrator and a hundred and fifty pounds for a Deputy Hostel Administrator to a hundred and twenty pounds for an assistant quartermistress attached to a hostel. Applicants should apply to the Headquarters of the W.R.A F., Mason's Yard, St. James's, S.W. 1. Another interesting piece of news of women who are serving with the forces is that, on Thursday of this week, the women-patrols of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps enter upon their duties. Their work is only connected with the women's army. Their duty is to see that the women's uniform is smart and that the conduct of the wearers is all that it should be. The patrols will be distinguished by a black armlet with red lettering and a police-whistle on a lanyard.

Training for the Admiralty.

A new scheme of training women for service in the Admiralty is to be tested in September. The Admiralty is opening training schools where British town girls may enter on reaching the age of eighteen. They should have an ordinary school education of spelling, punctuation, grammar, arithmetic, and geography, and should, above all, have a clear handwriting. The training will include shorthand, typing, indexing, filing, and general office routine. It will last for three months, and the fee will be from fifteen to twenty-one guineas. The Admiralty is, however, prepared to advance the cost of training if the principal of the applicant's school or college considers such an advance necessary. The money will subsequently be subtracted from the wages of the employee. All women passing the required tests at the end of training will be guaranteed posts in the Admiralty, but must sign on for the duration of the war. Hours of work are forty-eight per week. Shorthand typists over eighteen will be paid from forty-one to forty-seven shillings weekly; expert shorthand typists, fifty shillings to fifty-six; secretary shorthand typists with special qualifications, fifty-four shillings to sixty.

In View of an Election.

Amid the stir occasioned by the prospect of a not far distant General Election, and the greater stir which will succeed it when the date of the election is actually fixed, we ask Suffragists to keep in mind the items on this year's programme of the National Union, as a guide to the political problems particularly requiring the attention and support of women voters at the moment. The programme of the Union includes the following reforms:—The further extension of the franchise; the admission of women to Parliament; the improvement of the industrial position of women; the improvement of the position of married women, particularly in regard to income-tax, nationality, and equal guardianship of children; the establishment of an equal moral standard; and the appointment of women as police, magistrates, justices of the peace, jurors, solicitors, and barristers.

Another Woman Candidate.

We are greatly interested to read an announcement in the Press that the well-known Suffragist and member of the National Union, Miss I. O. Ford, of Leeds, has been asked to stand by the Labour Party as a candidate for Parliament. We have no information as to whether or not Miss Ford has decided to accede to this request, but in the event of her having done so we wish her all success in her candidature.

The Married Woman's Income-Tax.

The Income-Tax Bill was read a third time on Tuesday, and is now law. The measure is one which has reduced to order the various provisions relating to income-tax, which till now have been scattered about in various Acts of Parliament. It makes no change in the provisions themselves; consequently there remains unaltered that part of income-tax law which deals with the income-tax of married persons. In spite of its regard for the marriage laws, in spite of its desire to increase the birth-rate, the State, by the way in which it imposes income-tax, is virtually penalising matrimony.

The incomes of married persons are taxed jointly as a single income. Persons of small income are thus deprived, on marriage, of the rebatements and allowances which they enjoyed when single. In the case of a man and woman each possessed of an income of a hundred and thirty pounds, both were, before marriage, altogether exempt from income-tax, upon the supposition that their incomes fell below the "minimum of subsistence" line. Now their joint income is subject to income-tax; yet it has suffered no increase, and, unless the marriage is childless, will have to support more persons than formerly. The rebate made in the case of married persons whose joint income does not exceed five hundred pounds and is produced by businesses carried on by them quite independently of one another, and the further rebate made for dependent children, may obscure the injustice of such taxation but do not make it just. We would urge that reform of the income-tax charges upon married persons be adopted before another Finance Bill reimposes the injustce for a further period.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

According to the newspapers, we shall have an election before Christmas; and, in words that are "inspired" and words that are not, the obvious advantages and disadvantages have been set forth in all the dailies, and the weeklies have taken their characteristic lines. Everyone ought by now to know that "women will have their first opportunity of using their new political power" and that "the votes of the soldiers will be a second unknown factor." (So much we could have seen for ourselves.) Everyone now knows, too, that "the present House of Commons is effete and out of touch," that it needs "a new mandate" or requires "a strong policy." But what are all these words? How will they translate themselves into terms of votes in constituencies? and how much further are we likely to get by a General Election towards a solution of the problems that face us?

Great problems *are* before the country, and they demand clear thinking and decided action. War, peace, disarmament, the economic weapon, the League of Nations, and Federalism, these are the great things that involve the future of the world. These are the things we should like to vote upon at the next election—the things that our Government needs its mandate about, and on which our representation should be in touch. But how will these great issues come before us? We greatly fear that they will hardly come at all. There will be a great outcry of catchwords, and a great rush of loud talking: we shall hear of a united nation and of national unity, with no more precision than that. The individual men and women will find a distracted and confusing mass of literature upon their doorsteps, and the echo of much empty eloquence in their ears. They will have presented to them a multiplicity of candidates, many of them saying the same things and few knowing what they mean by them. There will be Lloyd George men (and perhaps Lloyd George women) from both the old Parties; there will be diehard Conservatives as well as modern ones; there will be Asquith Liberals as well as Radicals; there will be Labour men and Labour women (probably of at least four varieties); there will be Pacifists and Conscientious Objectors, Prohibitionists and National Party men, Billingites and Air Force representatives, International men and Independents, and out of this great welter of contending candidates will any great ideas emerge? The Party Truce, so useful for war, is fatal for political health: policies, programmes, and even persons get covered with a cloud of makebelieve, and everything lies wallowing in a slough of compromise, conciliation, and content. Where are our clean-cut issues and where our real disagreements? They are not dead, nor even sleeping, but they are covered over "for the duration of the war," and even a General Election will hardly rouse them. It is indeed difficult to believe that after this next election the new Government will be able to detect the voice of the people any more plainly than that of to-day.

If all this is true, what is the use of having a vote? What have we made all this fuss about, and why did we pass the Representation of the People Act? The answer to these questions is not far to seek. With all its faults and all its confusions democracy is still better than autocracy. If we have no system now, no parties, no politics, and no clear issues, we have still democracy. Our voices, if they are confused and confusing, will still be our own. We shall be a people, and for the first time a whole people—struggling to find its way into the new civilisation that the war makes necessary, and if we blunder on the way we shall have the remedy in our own hands. Our next Parliament can be called out and chastened (and it will probably need it soon). Our new parties can quickly be tested, and in the chastening and the testing, as well as in the first selecting, the women must do their bit.

And we need not, after all, be so very pessimistic about the coming General Election. The issues may be obscure, the candidates may be unsatisfactory, and the system may be all to make afresh. But we are a political people, and we are given to "practical politics," and we do know what we are driving at in the main. And now we have let the women in to lend a hand, and if they do not alter the balance of parties, they will, we may be very sure, alter them all from within.

Women Teachers.

By Agnes Dawson, Acting President, London Unit, National Federation of Women Teachers.

The struggle for the vote is but a chapter in the struggle for women's enfranchisement, and the struggle continues. Within the teachers' organisations an endeavour to get the principle of equal pay for equal work adopted took shape in 1912. The opponents to the principle employed all weapons within their grasp to defeat the women teachers in this endeavour. A description of the struggle between the women teachers and their men colleagues (who were, of course, assisted by some women teachers) is not the object of this article. Sufficient to say that all the old arguments used in and out of season against granting the vote to women, and all the old methods constitutional and otherwise, were in like manner employed to prevent such a principle being established even inside the teachers' organisations.

When Mr. Fisher first made it clear that in his opinion teachers throughout the country were not sufficiently well paid if education was to progress, and promised a substantial grant from the National Exchequer to enable local education authorities to improve their salary scales, education authorities and teachers' organisations immediately turned their attention toward getting the desired improvement.

A Departmental Committee was also appointed "to enquire into the principles which should determine the construction of scales of salary for teachers in elementary schools. . . ." Unfortunately for the women teachers, the National Federation of Women Teachers had not made its name known to Mr. Fisher so well as had the National Union of Teachers, and still more unfortunately for women teachers' equal pay for equal work was not the official policy of the N.U.T. There was no proof that the majority of the members in the N.U.T. were opposed to the principle, and likewise no proof that they were in favour of it; the principle had not found favour with a majority in the Executive, and since the machinery was in the hands of the Executive, it had been made too difficult for the rank-and-file to get a straight vote on it. The Departmental Committee, as is well known, was composed of seventeen members and two official secretaries. Four only of these were women, and one only of these four was an elementary school teacher, and that one had made it clear on public platforms that in her opinion the struggle for equal pay was inopportune; the report, then, of the Departmental Committee, in so far as women's pay was concerned, was a foregone conclusion. Meantime the National Federation of Women Teachers was growing daily, and with its growth in size came, naturally, a growth in its exchequer, and, as one of its mottos avers, "Nothing succeeds like success."

The first desperate struggle on women teachers' pay was to take place in London. From the moment that the London Education Authority issued its proposed new salary scheme, at the end of February of this year, there has been no doubt as to the ultimate success of the women's struggle. In the first place, the L.C.C.'s new scale absorbed the war bonus, generally known as the Gainford Award, and left the women teachers worse off for the coming two years than they would have been had the old scale remained in being; secondly, the old differentiation between the men's and the women's salaries was considerably increased: a headmaster at his *minimum* was to receive a larger salary than a head-mistress of the same grade at her *maximum*; a head-mistress in a Grade I., and even in a Grade II., school was to receive a lower maximum than any assistant master, and so on. Moreover, a child could easily calculate that the promised "Fisher Grant" was about to be very unequally distributed, and the inequality was, as usual, to fall hardly upon the women. This proved to be the spark to set aflame that fire of indignation that had been smouldering so long; it was fanned into intensity by the fact that the London Teachers' Association, through its officers, had accepted the scheme in spite of their avowed disapproval of its treatment of women; it became evident that women must speak for themselves. The gagging and fettering that seemed inevitable inside the mixed organisation was proving too much for them; the pace had been so slow that now a backward movement had been made for women instead of a forward one. On March 5th the women secured a defeat in the Council Chamber of the Education Committee's report. The salary scheme as presented by the Education Com-

mittee must be revised. It was revised, and some anomalies and injustices were removed, for instance, the maximum for headmistresses was improved and the commencing salary raised by £8; but this was not good enough. The great majority of women teachers in London were in precisely the same position as before, and were still out to lose in actual salary for the two years 1918-1920, and would not gain by the operation of the new salary scale for five years. However, the London County Council passed this revised scale on May 14th.

The women were now truly incensed: they had at last realised that she who would be free must herself strike the blow. There was no reserve money in the exchequer, but work must be done. The London Unit of the National Federation of Women Teachers began a Press and publicity campaign on faith in their cause and one another. Meeting after meeting was held in the Memorial Hall, in Kingsway Hall and Queen's Hall, and finally, in Trafalgar Square on July 20th. The public was by this time made perfectly cognisant of the situation; they knew to a detail the women teachers' grievance, and anticipated with some curiosity and concern the prospect of a strike. The meeting on July 22nd at Queen's Hall was a members' meeting only; then it was resolved that if justice was not done on the following day at the full Council meeting a strike it must be. It was a meeting full of hope, full of enthusiasm, and full of determination. The strike would mean a lean time for all. There was no strike fund (there will be soon), but many were the offers of hospitality from the more fortunate to the less fortunate. The organisation of the details involved in these offers was already begun. Next day came the Council's meeting. The discussion on the Education Committee's report, which in effect was refusing arbitration on the matter, was long and tedious; the procedure so cumbersome that those who would do justice found themselves so enmeshed in their own red tape they could not get disentangled. At long length a way out seemed possible, and eventually a war bonus was conceded, a Round-table Conference was proposed, at which four County Councillors and four teachers were to confer as to the amount.

The Round-Table Conference took place on Thursday, July 25th, and recommended that a FLAT RATE of 15s. per week as from April 1st, 1918, should be paid to all teachers in the Council's Elementary School Service. This, however, was only accepted by the women teachers as a step towards the solution of the present difficulty if it were made clear that the war bonus was granted without prejudice to any question which may be raised at a later date on the reconsideration of the scale of salaries passed by the Council on May 14th. There is no doubt as to the success of the campaign. A Round-Table Conference between councillors and teachers has been set up for the first time, to mention but one result; there is no doubt either as to the women's determination to get that iniquitous scale amended soon, and the ultimate goal is equal pay; for then and then only shall we have established for women workers a principle, the operation of which will make it impossible for employers to exploit women's labour, and remove the possibility of undercutting and the temptation to "sweat."

Primary Education in Ireland.

By Dora Mellone.

The fate of the Fisher Bill has been followed by Irish educationalists with mixed feelings. There is unmixed satisfaction at the prospect of real educational progress in Great Britain, progress which must react across the Irish Sea, but it is impossible to suppress a certain instinct to compare this picture with that. Alas for Irish education, a Bill establishing the pre-Fisher conditions in this country would represent as great an advance for Ireland as the present Bill does for Great Britain.

The financial position of Irish education may be summarised from the latest official Report, 1915 to 1916, as follows. The total expenditure on schools and teaching staffs, from State and local sources amounts to £1,758,877 odd, giving a rate per pupil from all sources of £3 10s. 10d.: the average salary of men principals is £115 10s. 11d., of women principals £92 13s. 9d. The averages for assistants are, men, £83 11s. 4d., women, £70 2s. 3d. It is easy to see why year after year the National Teachers' Congress is mainly occupied with the struggle for a living wage and for reasonable conditions.

It must be remembered that the Commissioners of National Education, a body appointed by the Lord Lieutenant, and responsible only to him—*i.e.*, to Dublin Castle—pay the salaries of the teachers from Treasury grants, and control conditions of promotion and pension. The last Treasury grant was described by the *Irish School Weekly* which represents the Irish National School Teachers' Organisation, as "simply an outrage. . . ." The same paper summarises its objections to the terms on which the grant is allocated as follows: "The system of averages, which has wrought so much mischief in the past, and which has led to such keen and bitter dissatisfaction is retained. The grading of teachers on averages, in a country sparsely populated like Ireland, is highly unjust to the teacher and prejudicial to education, and should be removed."

It must be explained that the schools are graded into three classes, according to the average attendance, and the salaries of the teachers vary according to the grade of the school.

Thus no promotion can be obtained, no matter how efficient the teacher unless the average attendance rises. The efficient principal teachers in Grade II., who number altogether 2,755, cannot obtain promotion unless the average attendance rise above fifty, and the highest grade is impossible unless the average rise above seventy. Here the total number of principals is only 702.

At the same time the teacher has no control over school attendance. This is controlled by the local School Attendance Committee, appointed half by the Commissioners, half by the local authority. On a first summons, the average fine is sixpence, and the maximum fine which can be imposed is five shillings. Two months must elapse before a second summons can be issued. As pointed out in previous articles, far more than the fine can be earned by the child, boy or girl, in running messages or street-trading. It should be noted that the clause in the Act allowing removal from school if "such proficiency has been reached as is prescribed for Standard V." fails to make clear whether the standard required be that fixed for entering or for leaving Standard V., and the kind-hearted magistrate generally prefers to interpret the Act in the former sense. These leaving certificates are issued by the principal of the school, and it is easy to see how a teacher may in any of the large towns, be pressed to grant such certificates where there are younger children of the same family, whose continuance at the school depends on the goodwill of the parents. If one teacher refuses to grant the desired certificate, these younger children may be removed, and the average attendance will fall, with the consequent effect on the salary.

As a result the attendance at school dwindles pitiably as the high standards are reached. For instance in Belfast only 9.3 per cent. of the children on the rolls were in classes over the fourth; less than 3 per cent. reached Standard VI., a figure which compares unfavourably with that for all Ireland, where 6 per cent. reach the highest standard. In passing it should be noted that owing to deficient school accommodation, there are in Belfast over 10,000 children who cannot possibly attend school. The 1913 Report of the School Attendance Committee gives the figure as 5,940. There has been an increase in the population since that year, owing to extension of mill and shipyard work, with no increase at all in school accommodation. The case of the half-timers in the textile towns of Ulster is of course worse than that of the average child. As a rule at least 75 per cent. of these are in the lower standards, and they never reach any standard higher than the fifth.

The arrangement of school hours is at least as unsatisfactory as the law governing school attendance. The usual hours are from ten to three, the rolls are called at ten, often not till half-past. Children arrive even after this hour, and are marked as present, lest the parents be offended, and the children removed. Averages must be kept up, if at all possible, else the pitiful salary will be cut by removal of the school to a lower grade. It is immensely to the credit of the Irish teachers that the temptation has no great effect. Public opinion does nothing to support them in their struggle to improve education, for the public is obsessed with the party struggle. The recent announcements in the Press that two Committees of Enquiry are to be appointed would carry more weight, if there were any ground for hoping that women will be included in the *personnel* of these Committees, but this is as yet uncertain. During Sir Edward Carson's recent visit to Belfast an important meeting was held to consider the formation of a representative committee to consider the improvement of primary education in the city, a sufficiently urgent business, in view of the figures given above. No woman's organisation was represented at this meeting. Yet it might have been thought that women had some slight concern in the matter, considering the immense preponderance of girls among the employées of Belfast.

The general effect of these conditions will be dealt with in a later article.

Those other Women at Work in England.

From a Correspondent.

"Let us remember with thanksgiving and with all honour Elsie Inglis, to whom it was given by God to sacrifice her life in rendering great and heroic service to her fellow-men."

Two articles which appeared some time back in the Bloemfontein *Friend* raised such questions as, "Are women careless, are they callous?" and the answers given were not altogether in favour of women. Now a friend's right to indulge in criticism is universally recognised, so these articles have been read in England in a spirit of due humility. Some of what they say is doubtless true (of men, indeed, as well as of women). But it is only a fraction—perhaps a tenth part of the half of the truth.

The words, spoken at Dr. Inglis's funeral, that head this article, haunt me, as they will haunt your readers. They speak of something beyond the sordidness of little minds. Elsie Inglis, of the Scottish Women's Hospital of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, was a heroine, little less than a saint. Of her it has been written—"Her constant word at the Serbian Medical Headquarters' Staff was, 'Tell me when your need is greatest, without regard to difficulties, and we will do our best to help Serbia and her brave soldiers.' No wonder the Serbians worshipped her, and that already poems and legends are gathering round her honoured name. Twice she may have been said to have saved the Serbian nation from despair: the first time it was by her success in stamping out the typhus epidemic of 1915; the second time it was in the following year when Serbia was overrun by the Austrian and German armies. Over and over again she and her colleagues worked all night."

But space forbids more, suffice it to say that she died twenty-four hours after she had handed over her responsibilities on landing at an English port, still some hundreds of miles from Edinburgh, which had known and loved her as a physician and a Suffrage leader before the war. Always she said: "Not I, but my Unit," and she would have been the first to acknowledge the devotion not only of her own unit, but of other units and groups of British women, each under some great leader. Their names are legion:—Lady Paget, G.B.E., Order of St. Savo of Serbia, also worshipped in that unhappy land; Dr. Garrett Anderson (daughter of the medical women's pioneer and niece of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, leader of the Suffrage movement), now holding military rank as the head of a successful military hospital in London; Dame Katherine Furse, widow of the distinguished artist, and herself head, first of the "V.A.D." and secondly of the new women's naval service, the "Wrens" (W.R.N.S.).

But not all the women serve so far afield. Some in war, as in peace, find their chief duties at home. But they, too, have given their leisure for the soldiers' or munition workers' canteens; or the War Hospital Supply Depots have claimed them. Miss Shaw, Chief Inspectress of Hostels and Canteens has so organised at Coventry a chief munition centre, that a colony of 6,000 girls and women is housed under her care, and some 2,500 workers can be served with a hot meal within seven minutes of the sounding of the factory "buzzer." Then, in regard to the War Hospitals Supply Depots, the first of these, a perfect example, was founded by the lady who nursed King Edward VII. in his last illness, and since its complete success has been assured thousands on similar lines have arisen in nearly all the cities and many of the villages of England. These depots have trained the unskilled home women of the country until a War Office or Red Cross order calling for immense quantities of some hospital requisites, is turned out to sample and to time with absolute precision.

It is not possible even to name a tenth part of the women's organisations that have sprung up, but it is in that network of organisations our great secret of success lies—the slackers get weeded out, the efficient get promotion. And, in regard to this point, so apt to be overlooked by men when seeking women's help, the work of the Women's Service Bureau of the London Society within the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies deserves more than passing notice. Within forty-eight hours of the outbreak of war, this body of Suffragists saw that their organisation, perfected during many years of struggle, was in itself an asset to the nation. Everywhere they saw patriotic women running almost as sheep without a shepherd, to offer—they hardly knew what. They crowded into the Red Cross, even into the War Office itself; the desire to serve being their one conscious purpose. The Bureau held out a helping hand. It said in effect, "You shall serve as you wish, but we will help you to sort yourselves." And from that simple beginning this business of sorting has developed into an ever-growing centre of information, of training, of co-ordination. The bureau dealt with the Belgian refugees so efficiently that the Government took over its schemes. It deals with land-women and munition workers, it has even founded a new skilled trade, that of oxy-acetylene welding (for aeroplane work); it watches over the conditions of women's work and teaches that it is a false patriotism to undercut, or to consent to wrong conditions. At present it, with many others of the more thoughtful women, are planning ahead for the time, be it far or near, when the world must be reconstructed, made over again by the united efforts of men and women (in England an enfranchised womanhood); and, looking forward to peace at last, may we close with the old suffrage motto as an inspiration: "Better is wisdom than weapons of war." The women as well as the men of the Empire have learnt much wisdom in dealing with war problems, and they will apply what they have learnt in the new world towards which we yearn.

One of Our Pioneers.*

Mrs. Bateson: Obiit July 12th, 1912.

The power and the opportunities which are women's inheritance to-day were won for them by a few men and women. They were won for them by the individual efforts of the few rather than, as they might be to-day, by the organised forces of the many. Personality, important though it always is, never counted for more than it did among the women pioneers of last century. And because by her personality as much as by her work Mrs. Bateson did much to promote the liberation of women it is fitting that in the pages of The Common Cause tribute should be paid to her.

Yet it is impossible to give more than a mere glimpse of her to those who never had the privilege of meeting—nor we might add, of even *seeing*—her, for her distinction of appearance well matched the distinction of her mind and character. Her beauty of form and figure, her grace and dignity of bearing, gave delight to all beholders. To the last year of her life, the eighty-ninth, she retained an alertness of movement which was in harmony with the vivacity of her mind. And her beauty was of a kind that age seemed only to emphasize.

She was born in 1829 in Liverpool, where her father, Mr. James Aikin, a Scotchman, was in business as a shipowner. From him she inherited the love of education and many of the political ideas which animated her. The Rev. Dr. W. H. Bateson, Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, whom she married in 1857 and who died in 1881, was one of the leaders in movements for University reform, including the admission of women to the Tripos. They were the parents of a family of two sons and four daughters, all of distinguished ability, but notably Mr. W. Bateson, F.R.S., the well-known biologist, and Miss Mary Bateson, whose remarkable career as a historian was, unhappily, cut short by her death in 1906. The eldest daughter, Mrs. Heitland, is well-known to most readers of The Common Cause. Her great energies and her able pen as journalist have all her life been zealously devoted to promoting the interests of women. She has done much devoted work for the N.U.W.S.S. and has served on its Executive Committee. She has also written for, and for a short time edited, The Common Cause.

From her earliest days Mrs. Bateson was keenly interested in politics, and indeed in all that concerned the common weal. She was a strong Liberal of the intellectual school that developed in the "'fifties" under the influence of men like John Stuart Mill and John Bright. She was for a time a member of the Executive Committee of the Women's Liberal Association, and the formation of the Cambridge Women's Liberal Association in 1886 was largely due to her efforts. Though keenly disappointed at the refusal of successive Liberal Prime Ministers to include the enfranchisement of women among their schemes for national progress, it was not until the abandonment of the Reform Bill in 1913 that she felt obliged, in protest, to withdraw from the local Party organisation. She founded the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association in 1884, and was its Hon. Secretary till 1890, when she went to live in London. Both with personal and financial help she consistently supported the work of the

* A short obituary of Mrs. Bateson appeared in Common Cause of July 19th.

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N.U.W.S.S., of which at the time of her death she was a Vice-President; and happily, she lived long enough to rejoice in the conferring of the vote on many millions of her fellow-countrywomen.

Yet Mrs. Bateson was never an out-and-out feminist in the modern sense. She rated men's capacities very highly, having both in youth and during her early married life been influenced by the many men of ability whom she had known. At times she questioned whether women, even when freed from all the heavy handicaps which foolish and unjust laws and customs have imposed on them, could "make good" equally with men. This, however, did not weaken her ardour for the removal of their trammels. She was especially desirous of securing higher education for women, and was one of the small band of people who were instrumental in obtaining the admission of women to University lectures in 1870, and who later established Newnham College. She was Hon. Secretary of the Association for the Higher Education of Women from 1873 to 1880, and was for several years a member of the Newnham College Council. She was the first woman Poor Law Guardian in Cambridge, and it was due to her efforts that the patients in the workhouse infirmary obtained the services of a trained nurse.

These bare outlines of Mrs. Bateson's life give little idea of her vivid and attractive personality, of her wonderful vital force and of the variety of her interests. She delighted in social life, in music and (in her early years) in dancing. Her powers of literary criticism and appreciation were remarkably acute and sound, and her gifts as a writer of verse, though infrequently exercised, were of a high intellectual quality. Combining, as she did, deep feeling and fervour with spontaneous humour, she pleased audiences by the unconventionality and naturalness of her speeches. Both on public and private occasions she always desired to come quickly to the point, and was impatient of phrase-making, confusion of thought, and above all, of insincerity. Emotional and impulsive as her nature was, she disliked effusiveness and sentiment, or anything that savoured of weakness of character or affectation. And she was apt to be intolerant of commonplaceness and stupidity. She hated stagnation, and loved constant movement in life and thought: she was impatient with the mental and moral sluggishness that prevents so many of us from doing our best either for ourselves or the community. Many fine and unusual qualities were united in her character: her like we shall not see again.

Mary Ward.

A Book about the Land.*

Reviewed by a Land-worker.

In almost every department of life, the things that once were to be had for the asking are now almost unobtainable. This is as much the case in the world of books as anywhere else—perhaps naturally so—since leisure is at a premium in these days, and to produce a good book out of one's "odd free moments" is not an easy task. Occasionally, however, the thing happens, and hot from the stress of work comes a book of experiences, written in attractive English and essentially true to life, and so doubly worth reading. Such a book is "Two Girls on the Land," by Olive Hockin.

As a land-worker of two years' standing it is a pleasure to read it, and to anyone who is interested to know what land-work is really like it would be the same. To the right sort of would-be land-worker it should be a stimulus to recruiting, though to those who are merely attracted by the uniform and the happy thought that "it must be so nice to be out in the fields all day" I fear it would be the reverse.

There is no attempt to cloak the real grind of hard days that lie behind the phrase "work on the land." Here you have it all clearly stated—the long, long hours, the consistent pressure of work, the mud in winter, the heat in summer—and through it all the things that compensate and make one glad to do one's best to "carry-on." It is not possible here to set out the many paragraphs worth quoting, but to anyone who reads the book I can testify to the truth of every line. Many a time I have been asked in amazement, "But you don't plough, do you—isn't it terribly hard?" and when I have answered, "Oh, no! It's one of the nicest jobs when once you get used to it!" I have never felt myself believed, but here I find someone else who has the same opinion. The following paragraph is a very true summing-up of what it is like to follow the plough:—

"When the plough is rightly 'set'—a process which needs

* *Two Girls on the Land.* By Olive Hockin. (Edward Arnold. 2s. 6d.)

a good deal of experience—it will travel almost of itself, provided no rocks occur to jolt it out of its course; and there is just enough mental occupation to make the day interesting—turning the corners, watching that the furrow runs straight, and calculating the width of the lessening strip of unploughed land so as to take a clean, straight cut at the finish."

It is all so true in detail, (though I can imagine how Miss Hockin must have wanted to use the local countryside terms for her "lessening strip of unploughed land" and her "clean, straight cut at the finish"). The account of how to load a waggon, with an illuminating diagram, is also excellent, and perhaps truest of all the description of turnip-hoeing in the chapter called "Summer July." But if you are interested read the whole book. It is the real thing, and you will understand by the end that it is not a "soft job." But a good one?—and I say, "Yes, every time!" From my own experience I know how I have hated it at times, but there is something about it that you will find in no other branch of work that women have taken up during the war, and I am sure Miss Hockin has also found that it is well worth doing, and leaves one strangely content.

E. W.

Reviews.

Munition Lasses. By A. K. Foxwell (Hodder & Stoughton. 1s. 3d.)

Munition Lasses, by Miss Foxwell, Principal Overlooker in Danger Buildings at Woolwich Arsenal, is a thoroughly readable, chatty little book. It has for frontispiece a portrait of Miss Barker, the administrator, whose splendid qualities are well known to the London Society's officials in Women's Service, and is dedicated to the Cap and Detonator Girls, with a tribute to "the lasses in Primer and Fuse, in Cordite and in Trotyl, in the Cartridge and in the Fuse and Case Factories."

Miss Foxwell was evidently on the best of terms not only with her girls, but with her colleagues, whether men or women. She is also imbued with a spirit of enthusiastic patriotism, and rejoices in the incentive such a spirit gives to the Arsenal workers. She says: "A remark such as 'You will help our soldiers in the trenches by filling the shells and getting the war over,' sends a candidate away proud in the thought that she also is able to take her part in the nation's need, and this aspect of the case is new and delightful to some workers, setting up an ideal that lifts her above the sordidness of what has been hitherto daily toil for the mere necessity of bread to be earned." However drab the world outside may seem to the ordinary person, to Miss Foxwell at least that portion of it enclosed within the Arsenal walls is an oasis where all work merrily, under the most favourable of conditions, and with the most delightful of overseers, for the noblest of causes. A typical passage is: "In my small experience of Arsenal life I had found that the British lass, like the British lad at the front, is ever the lighter-hearted as the work is the heavier or more risky." All this makes good reading, but we cannot help wondering how the author would reply to certain questionings in Lord Henry Bentinck's pamphlet *Industrial Fatigue,* because the gallant spirit of lads or lasses does not absolve the public from responsibility. Lord Henry says: "At Woolwich Arsenal the amount of overtime worked is too well known to need emphasising. . . . It is significant that at Woolwich Arsenal doctors are now diagnosing Industrial Fatigue as a recognised illness. . . . If the sickness rate at the Arsenal has been so high among the men, it would be very interesting to have the figures for the women. They have been carefully kept by the Lady Superintendent, so that it should not be difficult to collect them. . . ." We know that conditions at Woolwich are greatly improved, it would be well to know they are now all they should be.

Now and again Miss Foxwell is in shadow, but almost too quickly she flits away into the sunshine. Let us leave her there, with old "Auntie" Ellis, the "shifting room" attendant, and her bright red shoe strings. Says a worker to "Auntie," "How gay you are, Auntie Ellis." To whom Mrs. Ellis in reply: "I'm wearin' the Government's red tape; it's accordin'."

A. H. W.

Penal Reform League Record. (68A, Park Hill Road, N.W. 3. 1s.)

We welcome the reappearance of the *Penal Reform League Record,* which has been suspended for several years owing to the war. The present number is dated some weeks back, and does not therefore contain quite the latest information on such matters as, for example, Education, or the Law of Solicitation. Nevertheless, nearly all the matter supplied in the various articles is of value at the moment. The very wide range of subject dealt with shows how closely Penal Reform touches the whole question of social betterment in every aspect, and the volume will be of value for this reason to those who have hitherto regarded the purpose of the League as outside their special line of thought. No one can read such articles as "Revolution in Prison" or "Sentimentalism or Justice" without recognising that a rotten penal system means a rotten State.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS.

Madam,—Will you kindly allow us to point out to your readers the probability that on the occasion of the first elections of Local Government Authorities after the War, there will be *complete new elections of the whole Councils*?

In time of peace, the election of County Councils and of Parish Councils is triennial, all members being elected at one time, but this is not the case in Boroughs—one-third of the Councillors in a Borough retiring annually; and in Urban and Rural Districts the Councillors retire by thirds in each year, in the absence of a special order providing for their simultaneous retirement in every third year.

It is because of the long time which has elapsed since the last elections of local bodies took place, that it has been suggested that when the new register comes into force complete new elections shall be held. Sir Horace Monro, Permanent Secretary of the Local Government Board, has sent a letter to the Rural District Councils Association, pointing out that this would involve a change in the case of those bodies whose members at present retire by thirds annually, and asking the views of the Association. The Executive Committee of the Association have expressed their approval.

Your readers will recognise the importance to the candidature of women of such a change as that suggested. It must produce an enormous demand for candidates. Even in normal times, local parties are apt to complain that the number of good candidates is inadequate. Now, if far more than usual are wanted, competent women should be much in request. Moreover, one sad effect of the war is to reduce the number of good men who might have been available.

There are two other noteworthy facts. One is, of course, the vast increase in the number of women Local Government electors, which ought to ensure a fair field for well-qualified women, since it is to be hoped that women electors will thoughtfully support the best candidates, both men and women. The other fact is that the coming elections will be the first in which the residential qualification has been available for County Council and Borough Council candidates, and it will enlarge the choice of candidates by facilitating the candidature of non-electors.

(Signed) Annie Leigh Browne.
Mary Stewart Kilgour.
Marian Berry

Women's Local Government Society,
19, Tothill Street, Westminster.

Reports, Notices, etc.

News from Scotland.

DEPUTATION TO THE SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND.

On Friday, July 26th, the Scottish Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies organised a deputation to the Secretary for Scotland on points in the Education Bill, the Solicitors Bills, and the Married Women's Property Acts. The following Societies took part in the deputation: The Church League for Women's Suffrage, the Universities Women Suffrage Society, the Women's Freedom League, the National Union of Women Workers, the Conservative Women's Reform Association, the British Women's Temperance Association, the Women's Friendly Society of Scotland, the Scottish Council of Women's Trades, the Co-operative Women's Guild, the Dundee Women Citizens' Association. Miss Louisa Lumsden, in connection with the Education Bill, urged that there should be an equal number of women on School Management and all Committees; that women should be appointed to Inspectorships on full work with the same status and payment as men; and that equal facilities be given to girls and boys in all continuation and technical classes. She said it was not sufficient that provision should be made for *a woman* on Committees, and that the Scottish Education Bill ought to give a lead to public opinion in this direction. With regard to women inspectors she pointed out that there were only two or three, and they were not on full work, as they only inspected needlework and cooking. Miss Lumsden also instanced hairdressing as one of the subjects in which classes were arranged for boys, whose fee of 5s. was returned to them when they obtained their diploma, whereas girls had to pay large sums to obtain training in this profession. Miss Masson dealt with the question of women being allowed to act as solicitors on its merits, with particular reference to women's work in the war, and observed that to say that it would be unfair to lawyers at the front was an emotional argument which might be used against women doing any work that had formerly been done by men. Mrs. Leslie Mackenzie said legal education was open in every detail to women, and that the law should place no restriction on their being able to carry out what they had educated themselves to be. Mrs. Shaw McLaren urged that an Amendment should be passed to the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Acts to abolish the husband's right of administration of his wife's property so that he could not veto her disposition of her capital. She spoke of the hardship this inflicted on many wives at the present time when their husbands were absent, and she pointed out that women were often in control of large sums of public money, yet were in Scotland denied the right to control their own capital.

The Secretary for Scotland, in his reply, said that he had always been entirely in sympathy with the views expressed by this influential deputation. With regard to women on Committees set up by the Education Bill, he would consider the possibility of framing a general clause before the Report stage of the Bill which would remove any doubt as to the eligibility of women for management and all other Committees in the Bill, but he thought that to make this mandatory would be to override the wishes of the electors. With regard to school inspectorships he would consider whether any special regulation was necessary in view of the new conditions which the bill would bring about when it became law and the wider authority of women voters.

With regard to continuation classes he thought the bill as drawn held the scale very fairly as between girls and boys, but if there was anything

which could be tuned up in this matter he would make it his business to look into the question.

On the subject of women solicitors and law agents, Mr. Munro expressed himself as entirely in favour of women practising in the profession. He said that when he was in Edinburgh one of the most efficient clerks in the whole city was a woman in a solicitor's office. Mr. Bonar Law had stated on July 15th that he had ascertained that this was a controversial bill, and on that account facilities could not be given for its passage under a Coalition Government in time of war. This answer precluded the possibility of the Bill being taken up before the recess, it would remain to be seen whether an opportunity would arise after the adjournment.

With regard to the Married Women's Property Acts, he thought that the law of Scotland should be brought in line with that of England. He would consider and endeavour to ascertain whether a short measure, which might be introduced after the recess, would be considered controversial.

MARY BURY, *Organiser.*

JOINT MEETING ON REGULATION 40 D.

On July 23rd, the Edinburgh Society for Women's Suffrage, in co-operation with the British Women's Temperance Association, the National Vigilance Association and the Women Patrols, held a meeting to demand the Repeal of Regulation 40 D. Mrs. Chalmers Watson presided over a crowded audience, many of whom had been present at a meeting a few days before to hear of the work of the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease. The speakers were: Mrs. Gotto on the Social Aspect, Dr. Jean Morton on the Moral Aspect, and Mrs. James T. Hunter on the Legal Aspect of the question. The application of the new Regulation was fully explained by the speakers, who also made suggestions as to the lines on which action should be taken. Mrs. Gotto urged that if the question were adequately dealt with by the civil authority, such a regulation as the one under discussion would not have been put forward by the military authority. She dealt with it mainly from the public health point of view. Dr. Jean Morton said that the whole question rested on a moral basis, that there must be an equal moral standard for men and women. She said that if young women showed that they expected purity and chastity in young men it would help them greatly. Public opinion must not condone a moral lapse in a man any more than in a woman, or suggest that it was less possible for a man to be pure. Mrs. Hunter advocated a clean sweep of the present laws dealing with the question of prostitution, and urged that legislation should be equal between the sexes, but that under the circumstances this was almost impossible to secure. The following resolution was passed unanimously, after a good deal of discussion and many questions:—

"That while recognising the urgent necessity for checking the ravages of venereal diseases in the Army, this meeting is of opinion that D.O.R.A. 40D will not fulfil this object, and that it is open to great abuse. This meeting, therefore, urges the immediate repeal of this Regulation. This meeting further considers that if the wilful communication of venereal disease is to be made a punishable offence it should be made equally punishable for persons of both sexes.

"This meeting also urges the appointment of a representative Royal Commission to enquire into the question of prostitution and solicitation, and to make recommendations as to how the problem should be dealt with."

LIBERAL WOMEN AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

At the recent Council Meetings of the Women's Liberal Federation, numbering 609 branches with a membership of 86,700, the following resolution was unanimously carried:—

> "That the Council of the Women's Liberal Federation believes it to be expedient in the interests of mankind that some machinery should be set up after the present war for the purpose of maintaining international right and general peace, and calls upon the Government to take steps at the earliest possible moment for the formation of a League of Nations to secure after the war international disarmament, and to guarantee the settlement of international disputes by judicial decisions or arbitration instead of by arms."

In pursuance of this policy the Committee of the Women's Liberal Federation have now carried the following resolution, which has been sent to every member of the War Cabinet:—

> "That this Committee urges the Government to form a Parliamentary Committee to study the conditions on which a League of Nations might be formed."

A WOMAN CANDIDATE FOR HENDON.

By invitation of the Women's Parliamentary League, Mrs. How Martyn purposes to stand as Parliamentary candidate for Hendon at the General Election. Mrs. How Martyn has already issued a preliminary address, in which she dwells on the necessity for women Members of Parliament to help in solving the difficult problems of reconstruction which will arise after the war, and to re-establish and develop civilisation.

"The Common Cause."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We warmly thank those who have responded to our appeal last week. We have received, amongst others, a generous contribution of £25 from "E. C. B.," a friend to whom we feel great gratitude.

We hope that those who are getting new subscribers for THE COMMON CAUSE will be so very kind as to let us know what success they have had, and what criticisms and suggestions they have heard about the paper.

Labour shortage during the holidays will make it necessary for us to have only an eight-page paper for a few weeks. But readers need not fear that the "development" of THE COMMON CAUSE is coming to an end. That really depends only on them!

A Lightweight Model of Draper's Popular
"ALL BRITISH"
SPORTSMAN'S COAT

For the Women of Britain

PRICE 37/6

This is a model designed for Summer and early Autumn days. It is better to be **sure** than **sorry** when a shower spoils an otherwise sunny day. The Lightweight Model enables you to be sure of keeping snug and dry. It is so light that it is no encumbrance, and with it on your arm you can venture out any day with confidence.

The Sportsman's Coat (Lightweight Model) is sold under the same satisfaction-ensuring conditions as its predecessor.

HAVE IT ON APPROVAL FOR FOUR DAYS.

The coat comes by return for 37/6 with your order. If it fails to satisfy you return the coat within four days in same condition as received, and we will return your money in full. **You** risk nothing. **We guarantee** to satisfy you.

STUDY THIS SPECIFICATION.

The Sportsman's Coat (Lightweight) is made from specially prepared strong cotton in Khaki shade and efficiently proofed. Cut by expert craftsmen to give an extremely stylish appearance in wear. Fitted with Syddo interlined fronts—stiff self belts—strapped cuffs and lined throughout with plaid lining. They are equal in value to the original heavier Sportsman's Coat which was designed for winter wear. For style, wear, protection and convenience these Lightweight Models are ideal

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Length	..	46	48	48	48	48

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Offices—Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W.1.
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Headquarter Notes.

The N.U.W.S.S. office will be closed on Saturday, August 3rd, and Monday, August 5th.

Treasurer's Report.

We print to-day a further list of the new subscribers to our Permanent Fund, and hope that their number will continue to increase during the summer holidays.

We are most grateful to the Maidenhead, Southampton, and Malton Societies for sending for copies of our appeal to distribute among their members, and we hope that many more Societies will do the same. We feel that the fact that subscribers of two guineas or more are to receive a free subscription to The Common Cause will make it much easier to find these desirable helpers. People will be readier to give when they realise that they will be kept in touch with all the activities of the Union through its organ, and that they will at the same time have the opportunity of reading one of the best weekly papers.

"The Common Cause" Hut.

As we go to press, the third Hut presented by readers of The Common Cause to the Y.W.C.A. for the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps is being opened upon Salisbury Plain. Since last week we have received some most generous donations for it. Only £49 1s. 3d. is now needed to complete the full sum of £750 required for the Hut. Who will help us at the finish?

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	619	1	6
Sale of Necklace, made by Mrs. Garrett		3	6
Anonymous	55	2	9
Miss Montgomery		10	0
"E. C. B."	25	0	0
Miss Helen E. Downs	1	1	0
	£700	18	9

Reports from Societies.

NEWPORT.—The Newport (Mon.) Women's Citizen Association held its second meeting at the Town Hall on Monday last, when Mrs. Townley addressed a numerous and enthusiastic audience on the new responsibilities of women. Councillor Lloyd Davies was in the chair, and spoke of the need for women supporting progressive Town Councillors in their efforts for reform.

The Newport Suffrage Society took the initiative in forming this Association, and its members are *ex-officio* members of the W.C.A. Committee, which also includes representatives of all the important women's organisations in the town, the Mayoress being President.

At the large inaugural meeting in May, at which Mrs. Cooper and Dr. Saleeby were the speakers, 150 members joined the Association, which now numbers nearly 200. Fortnightly Ward meetings have been arranged for the winter, at which there will be informal lectures, with discussion afterwards, on housing, child welfare, &c.

ASCOT.—Ascot Suffrage Society scored a great success on July 20th with its "Lavender Market." A house-to-house collection was made there, and in the surrounding villages with sale of flags and favours. A street market was held in Ascot, with stalls for sale of refreshments and for inexpensive trifles. "Shops" were opened also at Sunninghill and Bracknell. The Canadian Forestry Corps "Pipe Band" played during the afternoon in Ascot, and the Royal Air Force band in the evening, which kind assistance was much appreciated. The help given by generous purchasers and generous contributors resulted in the very handsome profit of over £200, which is divided between the Scottish Women's Hospitals, where the Ascot Society maintains five beds, and the Berkshire Regiment's Prisoners of War Care Committee.

RADCLIFFE AND WHITEFIELD.—The Radcliffe and Whitefield Society N.U.W.S.S. held a well-attended "At Home" at the residence of Mrs. F. Stanton Barnes, "Enfield," Heaton Park, on July 19th. Mrs. Barnes introduced Mrs. Errock, of Rochdale and Manchester Federation of Suffrage Societies, who gave an interesting and practical address on the future work of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. Mrs. Errock said that much could be done in the training of the women voters, and dealt with the various important topics they would have to consider. She discussed the group of reforms on the programme of the National Union Council, whose objects include almost all the reforms that touch the position of women and upon which the Union can act with a united intention—namely, the intention to secure for women an equal share of the difficulties and the rewards of human efforts.

Mrs. Errock advocated the further extension of the franchise, the industrial position of women, the equal guardianship of children, the nationality of married women, the solicitation laws and equal moral standard, the appointment of women as police, magistrates, jurors, solicitors, and barristers.

One of the main subjects that Mrs. Errock dealt with was the proposal for a national endowment, benefiting mothers and children, which scheme, if adopted, will help to build up a healthier nation in the future.

She strongly urged the establishment of Suffrage Memorial Scholarships. Manchester had taken a lead in establishing "Rachel Scott" and a Wolstenholme-Elmy scholarships. At present there were not enough scholarships open to females, and she asked her audience to give freely towards the Memorial Scholarship Funds.

She also strongly advised formation of Study Circles and Debating Classes in connection with Suffrage work. In Manchester an information bureau had been formed, where information could be obtained on women's questions, and she trusted good use would be made of the bureau.

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, much new work being undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or to Miss Gosse, Joint Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to July 11th, 1918	337,477	17	9
Further donations received to July 23rd, 1918:—			
Major H. Warburton, Political Depôt, Basrah, Mesopotamia	30	0	0
*Per Miss Macdonald Clarke, Edinburgh, for "Scots Thistle" Bed (Royaumont) ...	1	0	0
*"George Square Former Pupils' Club," Edinburgh, per Miss A. D. Ballingall, Treas. (already received, £2)		2	0
*Mrs. A. G. Glendinning ...		10	0
*Further for "Hope" Beds, per A. T. Hope (Royaumont and Salonica)	50	0	0
*Miss H. E. H. Smith (Serbia. 10s.) (France. 10s.)	1	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Employees & Staff, Saxone Shoe Co. Ltd. (£6 9s. 1d.), *Employees & Staff, Messrs. Dick, Kerr & Co. Ltd. (27th contribution) (£5 12s. 5d.), Employees & Staff, Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (91st contribution) £2 4s. 6d.)	14	6	0
*Oxford W.S.S., per Mrs. Brabaal	11	8	2
John Rutherford, Esq.	2	2	0
*Miss Helena M. Yates		6	0
*"A Mite from Corstorphine"		2	6
*Miss Agnes Kelly	1	0	0
"Wanlockhead War Relief Society," per John Edmond, Esq., Hon. Sec. and Treas. (Serbia)	5	0	0
Mrs. and The Misses J. M. and E. M. Usher, for "Merchiston" Bed (America Unit) ...	2	0	0
*Miss Mary Smith	5	0	0
*Mrs. A. H. Dickson	2	2	0
Miss J. M. Darling		10	6
*Collected for "Trinity Heroes" Bed (Royaumont), per Mrs. Young: *Malcolm Smith, Esq. (£2 2s.), *Miss Currie (10s.)	2	12	0
Contents of Money Box (for Serbian Refugee Children in Corsica)		8	0
*Pupils, St. Denis School, Edinburgh, per Miss A. Bourdass, Principal, Proceeds of Sale, for upkeep of "St. Denis" Bed (Royaumont)	80	5	0
*The London Committee of the S.W.H., per Miss Gosse, Jt. Hon. Treas., per Miss B. Stormer, for London Ward at Royaumont	825	0	0
*Clerks in the Claims and Record Office, Kew, per Miss Janet Smith, for "Claims and Record Office, Kew," Bed (Villers-Cotterets) (monthly donation)	6	3	0
*Mrs. Geo. S. MacLellan ...	25	0	0
*Women's Committee of the Students' Representative Council of the University of Edinburgh, per Miss Helen I. Allan Gray, Hon. Treas., Proceeds of 'Shoemakers' Holiday," for upkeep of "Students'" Bed (Royaumont)	31	14	1
*Miss Marian Best	5	0	0
*Messrs. Wm. Tod, Junr. & Co. Ltd., Springfield Paper Mills, Polton, Midlothian ...	10	0	0
*Employees, Bridgeness & Grange Collieries, Bo'ness ...	7	2	2
*Rosa	5	0	0
*Miss Sybil Douglas, for "Sybil" Bed (Sallanches): Miss Sybil Monnsey-Heysham (£2 2s.), Miss Sybil Prideaut-Brune (£1 1s.), Miss Sybil Butler (£1), Miss Sybil Christie (10s.), Miss Sybil Marshall (10s.), Miss Sybil Johnstone Douglas (10s.), Miss Sybil Underhill (5s.), Miss Sybil Stonhouse (5s.), Miss Sybil Nicholson (5s.), Mrs. Sybille Gillespie (5s.), The Hon. Mrs. Sybil Drummond (2s. 6d.), Miss Sybil Stevens (2s. 6d.), Miss Sybilla Hyslop Maxwell (1s.), Miss Sybell Hood (1s.)	7	0	0
*Miss Oliphant (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
*Pupils, St. Denis School, Chester Street, Edinburgh, per Miss A. Bourdass, Principal, additional towards "St. Denis" Bed (Royaumont) (already received (£80 5s.) ...		5	0
Collected per Mrs. Young, for "Trinity Heroes" Bed (Royaumont): Mrs. Miller Maxwell (£1 1s.), Mrs. A. W. Sanderson (10s.), Miss N. A. J. Annandale (10s.)	2	1	0
Miss Nina du Boulay, per Mrs. Russell	1	0	0
*Per Miss Geraldine Cooke: Sale of Work and Lecture, per Miss C. R. Cameron (£73 19s. 2d.), Proceeds of Eddleston Flag Day, per Miss Margaret W. Sandeman (£5 18s. 6d.), Copies of Scots Pictorial (3s.)	80	0	8
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: *Messrs. McVitie & Price, St. Andrew's Biscuit Works, Edinburgh, per C. S. Ross, Esq. (£20), *Staff and Employees, Brown Bros. Ltd., Rosebank, Bonnington Road, Edinburgh (£19 10s. 9d.), *Leith Domestic Servants' Association, per Miss Young (£7 6s. 3d.), *Employees, McDowell, Steven & Co., Lauriston Ironworks, Falkirk, per Jas. S. Smith, Esq. (£5), *Employees, Messrs. Thomson & Porteous, Leith Street, Edinburgh (£3 10s.), *Employees, Messrs. Munro & Co., Restalrig Factory, Edinburgh, per Mr. Banks (£2 8s. 9d.), *Women Clerks' Accountant Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per Miss Sutherland (£2 1s. 6d.), *Employees, Messrs. MacTaggart, Scott & Co. Ltd., Station Ironworks, Loanhead, per J. J. Laurie, Esq. (£1 17s. 5d.), *Staff, Accountants' Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per A. P. MacManus, Esq. (£1 13s.), *Workers, No. 4 Hoist Coaltrimmers, per J. Munro, Esq. (£1 8s.)	64	12	8
*Bristol W.S.S., per Mrs. Hicks, Hon. Treas. (April, May and June donations): G. Bryar, Esq. (6s.), Mrs. Cross (3s.), Mrs. H. Hicks (3s.), Mrs. Talbot (3s.), Mrs. Taylor (3s.) ...	18	0	
*Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundell's, Hon. Treas., June collections	43	1	8
*West Kilbride Flag Day, held on Saturday, July 20th, per Miss Graham	21	16	4
*"I. S. P."		10	0
*A. Bisset Thom, Esq.	1	1	0
John Baxter, Esq.	1	0	0
Douglas Walker, Esq., for "May" Bed (Sallanches) ...	25	5	0
*Birkenhead W.S.S., per Miss Mary Dalby, Hon. Treas., for "Birkenhead" Bed (Royaumont)	7	6	0
Miss Mary Mason	1	0	0
Drake Tonson's School, Governor's Office, Temple Buildings, Keighley, per A. de W. Whitley, Esq. (clerk), Result of Lecture by Sister Mary Walker	14	16	8
Tax Surveying Dept., Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, W.C. 2, per Wm. Webb, Esq.	10	0	0
*Per Miss Isabelle Kerr, local Hon. Sec., S.W.H., Greenock, 25th instalment from "Waste Paper and Waste Material Scheme"	100	0	0
	£338,966	8	2

Further List of Beds Named.

Names of Beds.	*Donors.*
"Kingsfield" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Per Miss M. Hulbard, Hon. Sec., Kingsfield College Fund.
"Newnham House School" (Sallanches, 1 year)	Per Miss Zara L. L. Miller.
"Paisley Teachers'" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.
"Kinlochleven" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.
"Laurel Bank" (Salonica, further 6 months)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.
"Queen Margaret College Students' Union Association" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.
"Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science" (Salonica, further 6 months)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.
"Sec.-Lieut. Walter Riddell, R.S.F." (Royaumont, 6 months)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.
"Scarborough" (Salonica, further 6 months)	Scarborough W.S.S., per Miss G. Rowantree.
"Linlithgow Academy" (Royaumont, further 1 year)	Per Jas. Beveridge, Esq., Headmaster.
"A. Harvey, Belhelvie" (Salonica, further 6 months)	Mrs. Harvey, Aberdeenshire.
"West Quarter Factory, Polmont" (America Unit, further 1 year) ...	see List.
"Edinburgh Ladies' College Former Pupils' French Club" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Per D. C. McIntosh, Esq., Hon. Treas.
"Mak' Merry" (2 beds) (Royaumont and Salonica, further 6 months each)	see List.
"Students'" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Women's Committee, Edinburgh University.
"May" (Sallanches, 6 months) ...	Douglas Walker, Esq., Edinburgh.
"Hope" (2 beds) (Royaumont and Salonica, further 6 months each) ...	Per A. T. Hope.
LONDON WARD (33 beds) (Royaumont, further 6 months each)	London Committee, S.W.H., per Miss Gosse, per Miss B. Stormer.
St. Denis" (Royaumont, further 18 months)	Per Miss A. Bourdass, Principal, St. Denis School, Edinburgh.

Item of Interest.

WOMEN WORKS CHEMISTS.—The *Manchester Guardian* reports that the Wigan Mining and Technical College has decided to provide for the training of women works chemists. The Wigan Coal and Iron Co. Ltd. is about to introduce the innovation of employing women chemists, and it is believed that there will be many openings for fully-trained lady chemists in the near future in connection with the coal industry and allied trades. The Wigan Electro-Metallurgical Works Ltd. will, it is stated, require a number of trained women analysts in the autumn. In connection with this readers of THE COMMON CAUSE will remember with interest that THE COMMON CAUSE recently gave a Research Scholarship in Chemistry. Women chemists of all kinds are increasing in numbers, and, we believe, have a great future before them.

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(Continued on page 208.

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Continued from page 207.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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